

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ATHENS 07692 231619Z

63

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ATHENS 7692

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, GR, MORG

SUBJECT: DEFENSE MINISTER DENIES PLANS FOR PURGING ADDITIONAL
MILITARY OFFICERS

1. ANSWERING QUESTION FROM JOURNALISTS OCTOBER 22, DEFENSE
MINISTER AVEROFF CATEGORICALLY DENIED ALLEGATION OF EXISTENCE OF
LIST OF 1500 MILITARY OFFICERS WHO WILL BE PURGED FROM THE ARMED
FORCES. PRESS QUESTIONS EVIDENTLY BASED ON RUMORS THAT SUCH
OFFICERS HAVE BEEN CHARACTERIZED AS "PRO-JUNTA" AND THAT
GOVERNMENT WOULD IN FACT PURGE THEM AFTER THE PARLIAMENTARY
ELECTIONS. AFTER ISSUING DENIAL, AVEROFF STATED: "IT SEEMS WE
ARE FORGETTING THAT WE ARE IN A STATE OF GENERAL MOBILIZATION."

2. IN REPLY TO A FURTHER QUESTION CONCERNING STATUS OF MILITARY
OFFICERS WHO WERE DISMISSED DURING SEVEN-YEAR JUNTA PERIOD,
AVEROFF COMMENTED THAT THIS MATTER IS ONE WHICH SHOULD BE DEALT
WITH BY GOVERNMENT FORMED AS RESULT OF NOVEMBER 17 ELECTIONS.
KUBISCH

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Message Attributes

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